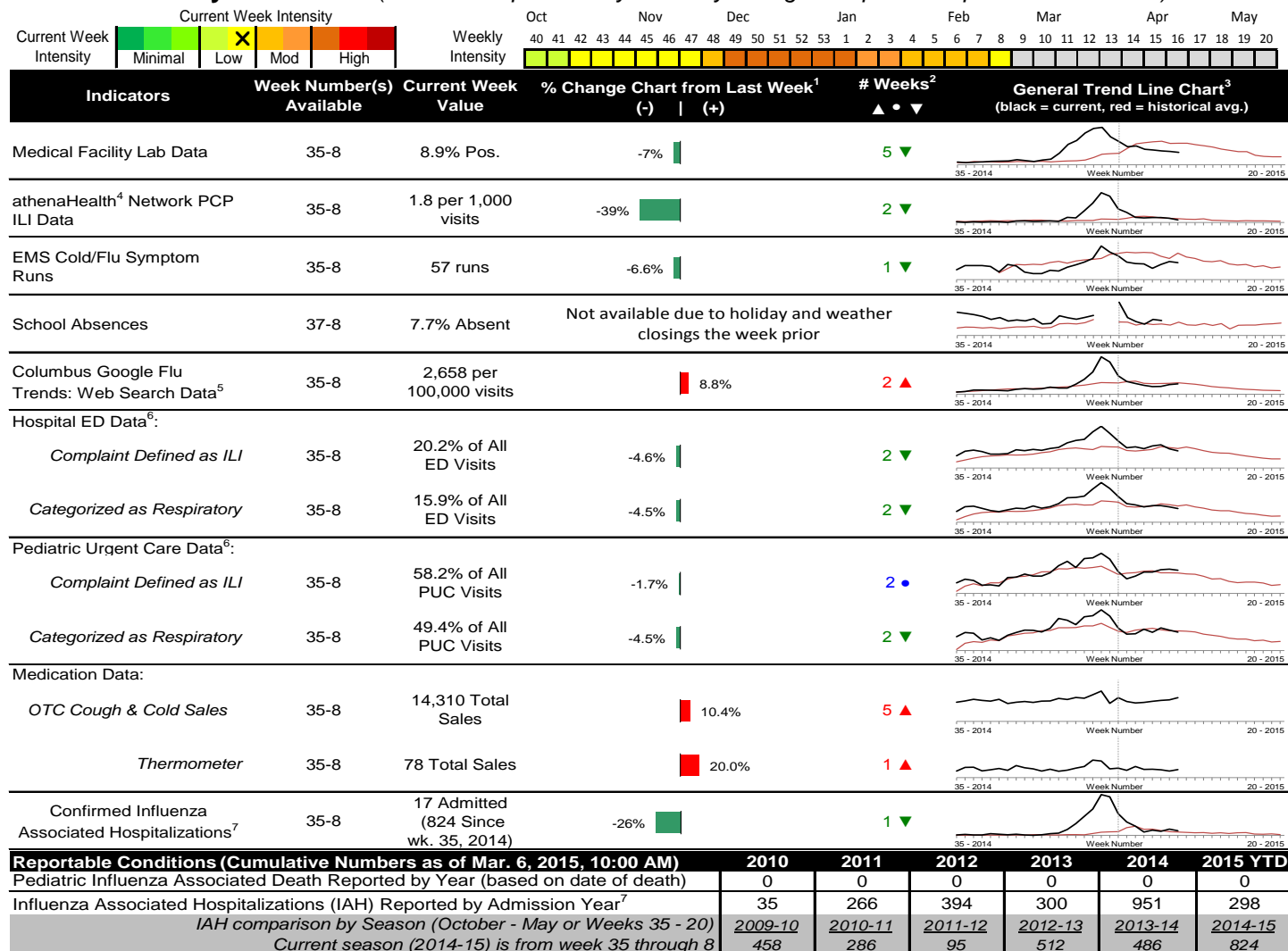


2014-2015 Columbus & Franklin County Seasonal Influenza Activity Weekly Summary (Week 8, Feb. 22nd, 2015– Feb. 28th, 2015)

Highlights

- In week 8 of 2015, trends for local flu activity indicators generally decreased compared to last week.
- Geographic activity and local intensity designation (Click [here](#) for definitions) = REGIONAL, LOW/AVERAGE
- Local medical facility labs reported 1,137 tests run with 101 (8.9%) positive results for week 8 of 2015.
- The percentage of ED visits for influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptoms both decreased slightly compared to week 7. The percentages of ED visits for ILI, as well as respiratory symptoms, are slightly below their respective weekly baseline averages.
- In week 8 of 2015, local over-the-counter medication sale trends generally increased (increase in cough and cold, thermometer, chest rub, pediatric anti-fever sales, adult anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales; slight decrease in electrolyte sales) compared to last week.
- Nationally in week 8, influenza activity continued to decrease, but remained elevated. Please [visit the CDC website for specific information](#) (National data is usually updated on Friday of each week).

Local Flu Activity Dashboard (All data are preliminary and may change as updated reports are received.)



¹Interpret with caution. Indicators with small numbers subject to large weekly percentage fluctuations.

²Number of weeks "▲" = Increase (>2%), "▼" = Decrease (>2%), "•" = Stable (-2% to +2%).

³Black line is current years data. Based on data availability, red line is historical average (excluding pandemic year).

⁴Data Source: athenaHealth, Inc. and their analytics and research team athenaResearch (www.athenahealth.com). Rate of ILI visits to Franklin County, OH, athenaHealth network's primary care practices/physicians using claims data.

⁵Data Source: Google Flu Trends (www.google.org/flutrends), City = Columbus, OH. See website for additional details.

⁶Franklin County, OH residents only (based on zipcode).

⁷Confirmed cases only. Based on jurisdiction equal to Franklin County or City of Columbus and admission date available in ODRS.

CDC 122-Cities Mortality Reporting System: Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality

In week 8 of 2015, 7.3% of all Columbus deaths were attributed to pneumonia and influenza. Nationally, 7.2% of deaths reported were attributed to pneumonia and influenza in week 8. This national percentage is at the national epidemic threshold of 7.2% for week 8.

Influenza Morbidity and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reports

In week 8, the preliminary local influenza-like-illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth providers (1.8 per 1,000 visits) was lower than the previous week and is lower than the baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 8 percentage of Emergency Department (ED) visits for ILI symptoms was lower than the previous week (Figure 3) and is slightly lower than the historic baseline for the week. Pediatric urgent care visits for ILI symptoms was stable compared to the previous week and is slightly higher than the historic baseline for the week.

Nationally, during week 8 of 2015, 2.5% of patient visits reported through the US Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet), were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). The percentage is greater than the national baseline of 2.0%.

Laboratory Surveillance

During week 8 of 2015, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 1,137 specimens, with 101 (8.9%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2014 through week 8 of 2015 is 36,161 with 6,008 (16.6%) positives (5,284 type A, 696 type B, 24 both A and B, 4 type unknown).

Nationally in week 8 of 2015, WHO and NREVSS laboratories reported 16,821 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 1,834 (10.9%) of which were positive (visit the CDC website for more info). The last 3 weeks available national breakdown by type and subtype from the CDC is shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1: U.S. Virologic Surveillance (WHO and NREVSS participating labs)

| Week | A Total | A (H1) | A 2009 H1N1 | A (H3) | A (H3N2v) | A (unable to sub-type) | A (Subtyping not performed) | B Total | Total # Tested | % Positive |
|------|--------------|--------|-------------|-------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|
| 6 | 2908 (78.7%) | 0 (0%) | 6 (0.2%) | 1396 (48%) | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 1506 (51.8%) | 788 (21.3%) | 25307 | 14.6 |
| 7 | 1913 (69.7%) | 0 (0%) | 9 (0.5%) | 905 (47.3%) | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 999 (52.2%) | 832 (30.3%) | 21342 | 12.86 |
| 8 | 1128 (61.5%) | 0 (0%) | 11 (1%) | 524 (46.5%) | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 593 (52.6%) | 706 (38.5%) | 16821 | 10.9 |

ODH lab results for Ohio cases that are PCR positive for seasonal influenza during the 2014-15 season. Positive results: (2) A/pdmH1N1; (997) A/H3N2; (15) Influenza B (through 02/28/15).

ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Respiratory Visits

In the 8th week of 2015, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as *respiratory* was slightly lower than the percentage seen the previous week and is slightly lower than its historic baseline for the week (Figure 5). The percentage of Pediatric urgent care visits for respiratory symptoms was slightly lower compared to the previous week, and is slightly lower than its historic baseline for the week.

Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medication Sales and Antiviral Prescriptions

In week 8 of 2015, local over-the-counter medication sale trends generally increased (increase in cough and cold, thermometer, chest rub, pediatric anti-fever sales, adult anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales; slight decrease in electrolyte sales) compared to last week.

Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:

Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/features/odhfeatures/seasflu/ohfluactivity.aspx>

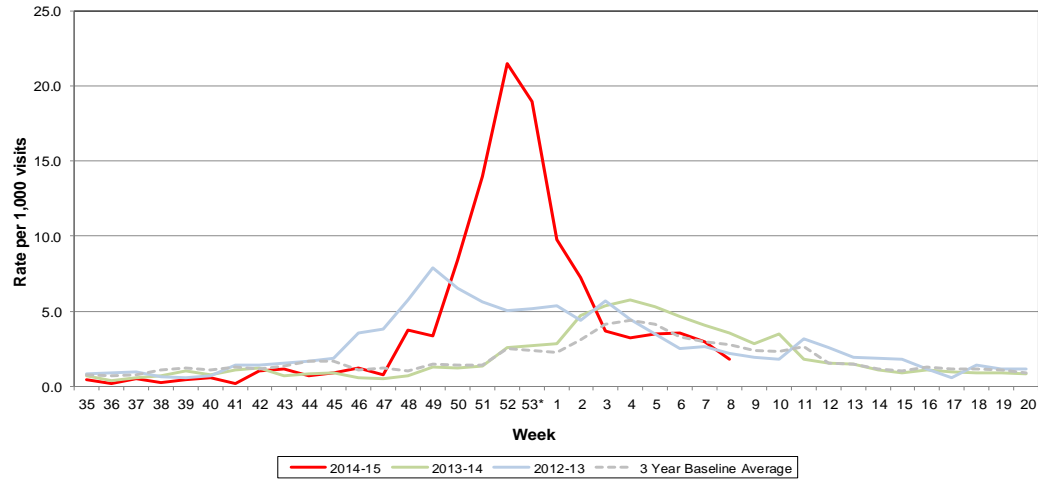
CDC National Seasonal Flu Surveillance Reports: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

CDC International Flu Activity Map: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/international/activity.htm>

World Health Organization Situation Updates: http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/en/

Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 8, 2015 (2/22/2015-2/28/2015)

Figure 1: athenahealth Network Primary Care Physician Influenza-Like-Illness Visit Rate†, Franklin County, OH



†Source: Claims data from athenahealth, Inc. and their analytics and research team, athenaResearch (www.athenahealth.com/blog/category/analytics-research)
 Note: athenaHealth claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are received.

Figure 2: Percentage of Local and National ILI Outpatient CDC Sentinel Health Care Provider Site visits, 2014-15

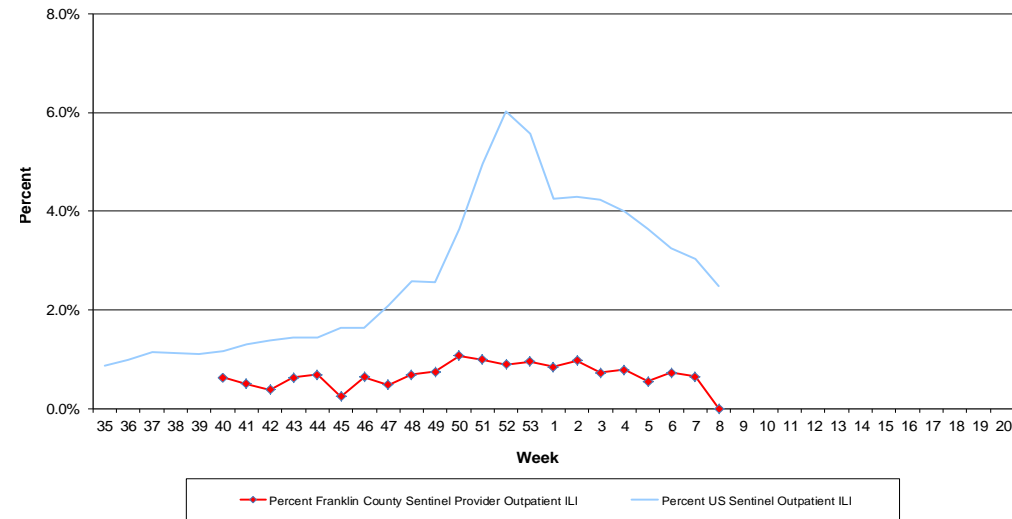
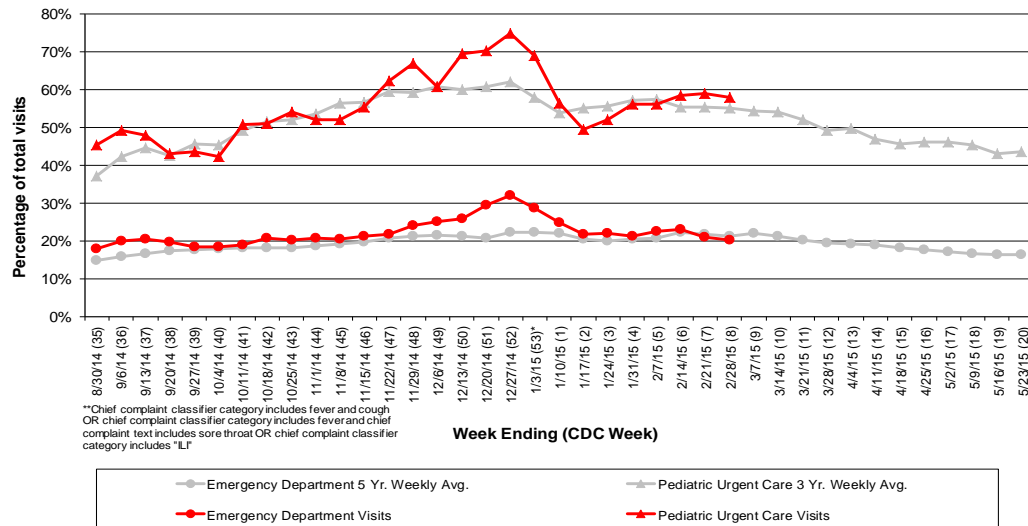
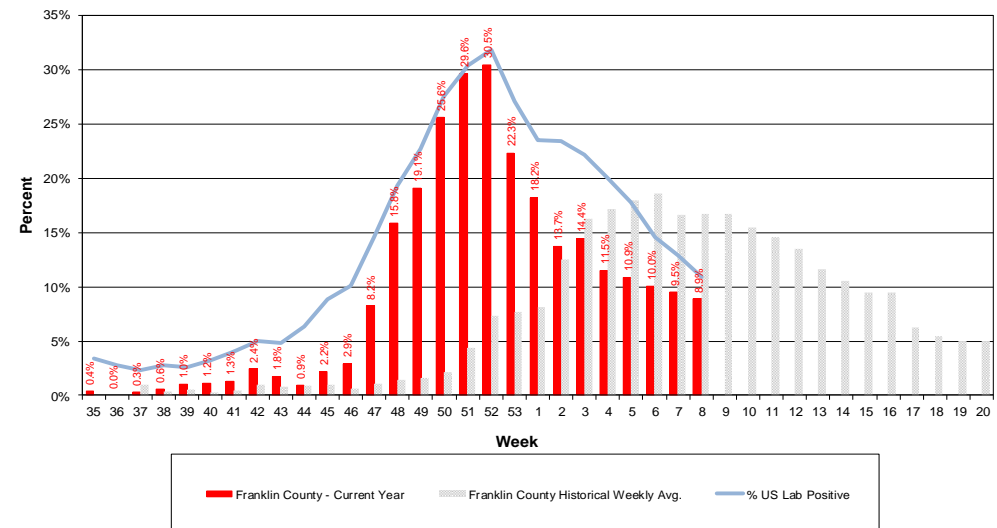


Figure 3: Franklin County Resident ILI Defined ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2014-15, Franklin County, OH**



**Chief complaint classifier category includes fever and cough OR chief complaint classifier category includes sore throat and chief complaint text includes sore throat OR chief complaint classifier category includes "ILI"

Figure 4: Percentage of Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2014-15



*Note: Based on CDC MMWR Weeks, there are 53 surveillance weeks in 2014. Baseline and previous year's week 53 data are based on the average of week 52 and week 1 numbers.

Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 8, 2015 (2/22/2015-2/28/2015)

Figure 5: Franklin County Resident Respiratory ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2014-15, Franklin County, OH

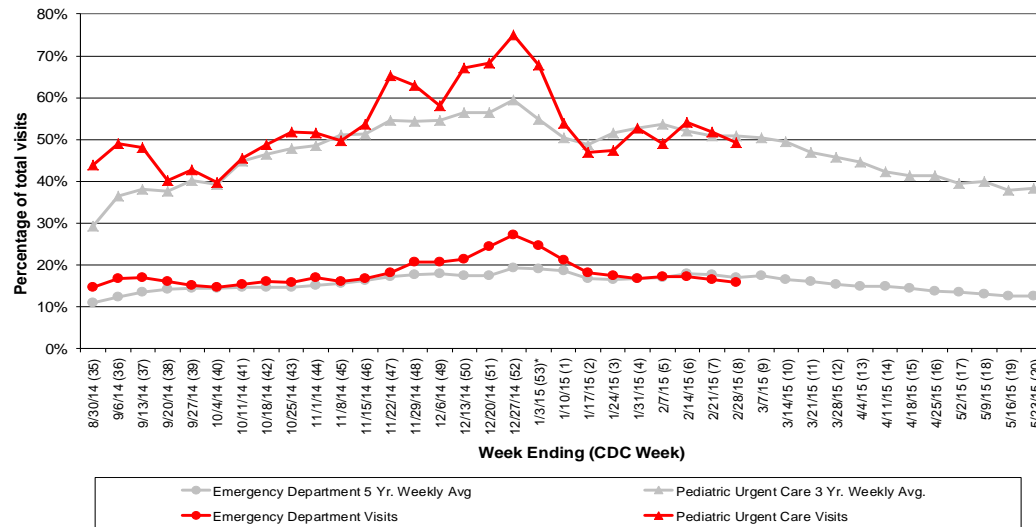


Figure 6: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Sales, 2014-15, Franklin County, OH

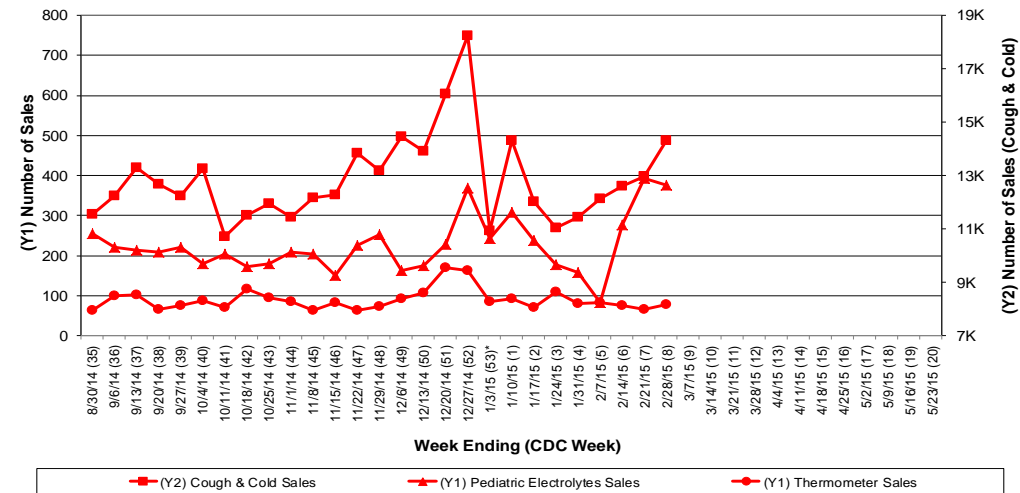
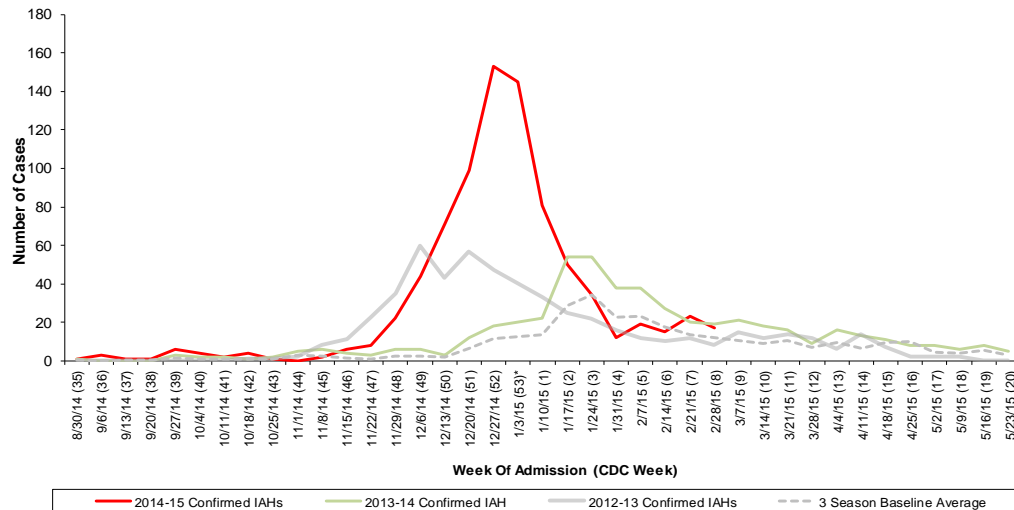
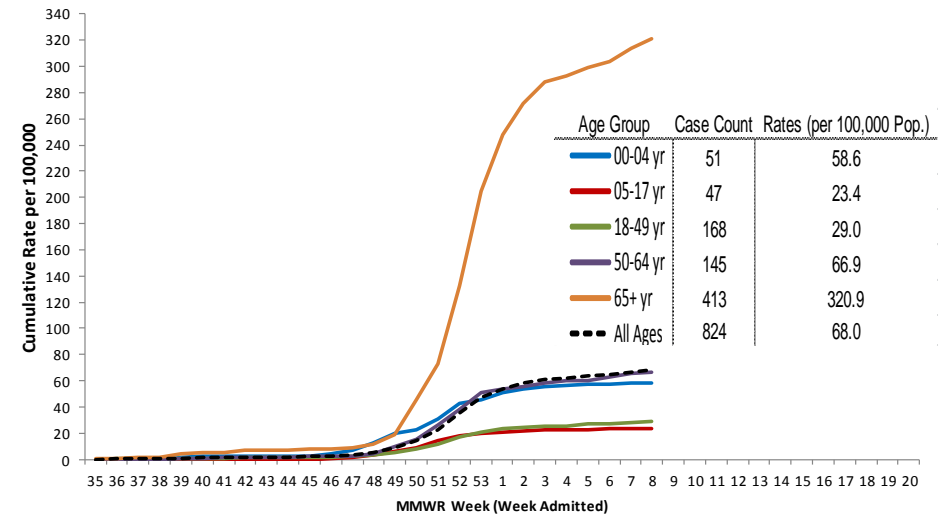


Figure 7: Franklin County Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations by Hospital Admission Week (As of 10:00 AM, 3/6/2015)



Franklin County, OH, Confirmed Influenza Hospitalization Cumulative Rates (per 100,000) by Age-Group and Admission Week, 2014-2015 Season



*Note: Based on CDC MMWR Weeks, there are 53 surveillance weeks in 2014. Baseline and previous year's week 53 data are based on the average of week 52 and week 1 numbers.